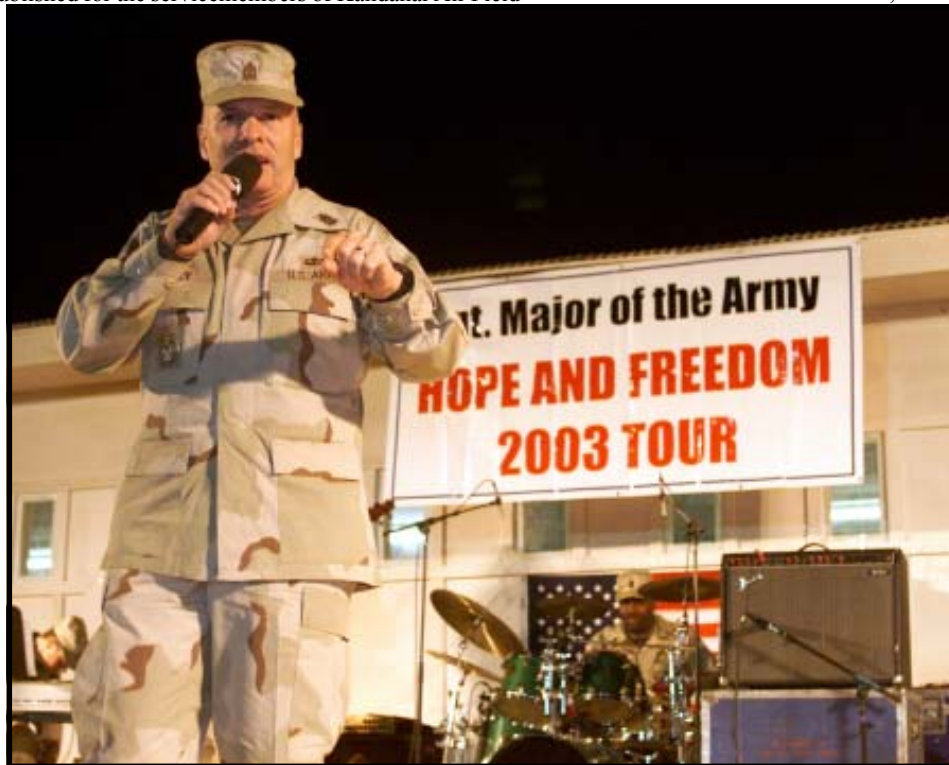


## VIP's and USO Guest Bring down the house at KAF

*"I order you to kick back,  
relax and let go for a while"*

*Story by Staff Sgt. Dave S. Thompson  
Photos by Spc. C. Elijah Spencer  
211th Mobile Public  
Affairs Detachment*

**Kandahar, Afghanistan—** Kandahar Air Field (KAF) received two distinguished guests and top-notch entertainment with the visit of the Chairman of the Joint Chief of Staff and Sgt. Maj. of the Army. Both top Military leaders brought with them a host of celebrities and entertainers to the delight of



*Sgt. Maj. Tilley pumps up the crowd before the performances start*

service members fighting the war on terrorism in Afghanistan's southern region.

Gen. Richard Myers arrived the evening of Dec 18<sup>th</sup> and was introduced to the troops by Brig. Gen Lloyd Austin, the Coalition Task Force 180 Commander. Gen Myers greeted the service members

at a staged area outside the Post Exchange and told them how proud he was of their service and sacrifice. His wife Mary Jo, entertainer Robin Williams, professional wrestler Kurt Angle and others

See USO pg. 5

## KAF Post Office Delivers Christmas Cheer

*Story and photo by  
Staff Sgt. Dave S. Thompson  
211th Mobile Public  
Affairs Detachment*

**Kandahar, Afghanistan—**As the early morning dawn ushers in the start of a new day, soldiers of the 303<sup>rd</sup> Adjutant General Postal Company from Boston, MA, hastily make preparation for the flood of mail that will soon arrive at the post office. It's mid December, and

the soldiers, donned in desert camouflaged jackets, struggle to ward off the cold morning chill. Four pallets, heaping with all sorts of boxes, packages, and bright orange postal bags are offloaded from a cargo plane and trucked over to the waiting crew.

Since arriving in country on August 7<sup>th</sup>, the 303<sup>rd</sup> has sorted, processed, and distrib-

see MAIL pg. 4



*Staff Sgt. Rob Moore and Sgt. Glenn Gilbert sort mail at KAF*

# From the Top

## Soldiers in CENTCOM eligible for \$5,000 re-up bonus

By Spc. Bill Putnam

December 19, 2003

**WASHINGTON** (Army News Service, Dec. 19, 2003) — Regular Army Soldiers who re-enlist in the Central Command area of responsibility this fiscal year are now eligible for a lump-sum bonus of about \$5,000 and the bonus is also retroactive for Soldiers who re-enlisted from Oct. 1 until now.

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld approved the plan Dec. 17.

The bonus, known as the Targeted Selective Re-enlistment Bonus, was brought back for Soldiers who re-enlisted after the original two-week window closed Sept. 30, Sgt. Maj. James A. Vales said.

Vales is the Army's senior retention manager and retention proponent for the Army's G-1 at the Pentagon.

The TSRB, as Vales called it, was introduced in September to Soldiers serving in Iraq, Kuwait, Afghanistan and Korea because the Army was 6,000 Soldiers behind its goal of re-enlisting 51,000 for Fiscal Year 2003.

"We were running a little behind for the year and the bonus put us over the top," Vales said.

To meet that goal, the Army offered a flat-rate \$5,000 re-enlistment bonus for Soldiers. The only catch, though, was

they had to re-up from Sept. 17 to Sept. 30. Additionally, only Soldiers in those four countries were eligible.

Unlike the first bonus's flat rate \$5,000, the new bonus is calculated on two scales — called A Zone and B Zone — and based on a Soldier's rank, time in grade and years in service, Vales said. That means more or maybe less money coming in, he said.

According to an example Vales gave, a private first class with less than two years in service would be in the A Zone and would receive \$6,784.50 for a three-year re-enlistment. A staff sergeant in B Zone with over six years in the Army would receive \$6612.30.

The program, with the retroactive period to Oct. 1 included, will cost about \$100 million for Fiscal Year 2004, he said.

To receive the bonus, Soldiers have to re-up for a minimum of three years. That time will also include a 12-month stabilization at their unit, Vales said.

The Army is also trying to keep the bonus unit specific, meaning units already down range — like the 10th Mountain Division in Afghanistan and 1st Armored Division in Iraq, Vales said.

Title 37 of the U.S. Federal Code states that the Department of Defense only pays a bonus to critical skills, he explained.

### Kandahar Fire Department Tip of the Week

In 2002, there were 3,380 fire related deaths in the United States. Be fire safe and report all fires, even if extinguished. You can reach the KAF Fire Department by calling our emergency hotline at 303 582-3020.

Submitted by TSgt Michael Hoesch, Assistant Fire Chief



*Mountain Warrior Weekly* falls under the supervision of The Combined Joint Task Force 180 and is published weekly on Mondays.

#### Coalition Task Force

##### Warrior Commander:

Col. William B. Garrett III

##### Coalition Task Force Warrior

##### Command Sgt. Maj.

Command Sgt. Maj. Frank A. Grippe

##### 10th Mountain Brigade PAO:

Capt. Kevin K. Dasher

*Mountain Warrior Weekly*, a U.S.

Army newsletter, is produced by the 211th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment, U.S. Army Reserve at Kandahar Air Field, Afghanistan.

##### Commander:

Capt. Kevin K. Dasher

##### NCOIC:

Staff Sgt. Dave S. Thompson

##### Editor/Layout:

Spc. C. Elijah Spencer

##### Journalist / Photojournalist / Graphics:

Spc. Zia Ul Haq, Spc. Timothy S. Melzow

In accordance with AR 360-1, this newsletter is an authorized unofficial publication for members of the U.S. military. The contents of *Mountain Warrior Weekly* are not necessarily the official views of or endorsed by the U.S. government, DOD or Dept. of the Army. (all submissions are subject to editing for size)

The Army determined that any MOS in those three countries was critical brought back the bonus.

To reinstate the bonus, Vales said a change was made to the code for Soldiers in Iraq, Kuwait and Afghanistan. Unfortunately, Korea was bumped off the list of countries that Soldiers could receive the bonus, though Soldiers there are still eligible for a Military Occupational Skill-based bonus, he added.

Additionally, Soldiers deploying to Iraq, Kuwait or Afghanistan with the Fort Hood, Texas-based 1st Cavalry Division, or the Schofield Barracks, Hawaii-based 25th Infantry Division are also being targeted for another type of bonus, Vales said.

# U.S. Soldier Is Time Person Of Year

Associated Press  
December 22, 2003

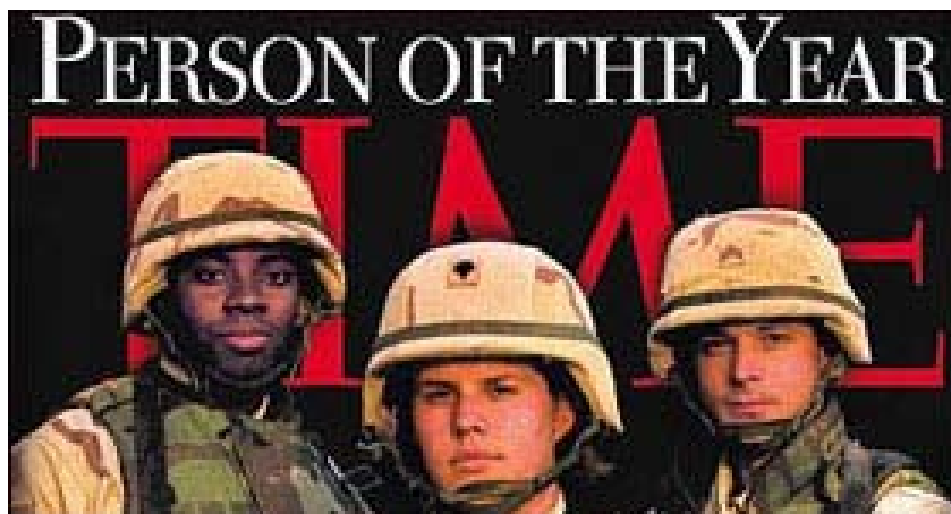
**NEW YORK** - Time magazine's Person of the Year for 2003 is actually many people - the 1.4 million men and women in the U.S. military, which invaded Iraq and captured deposed leader Saddam Hussein.

The troops were singled out as the top newsmakers of the year because "the very messy aftermath of the war made it clear that the mission had changed, that the mission had not been completed and that this would be a story that would be with us for months, if not years, to come," Time Managing Editor Jim Kelly said Sunday.

The 2003 Person of the Year package, on newsstands Monday, features an artillery survey unit from the 1st Armored Division to tell the story of the American soldier.

The magazine's cover shows three of them - Sgt. Marquette Whiteside, of Pine Bluff, Ark.; Sgt. Ronald Buxton, of Lake Ozark, Mo.; and Spc. Billie Grimes, of Lebanon, Ind., all members of Survey Platoon, Headquarters Battery, 2nd Battalion in the 1st Armored's 3rd Field Artillery Regiment, based in Giessen, Germany.

The magazine glorifies the soldiers but not the Bush admin-



istration for putting them in Iraq, calling troops "the bright sharp instrument of a blunt policy," and leaving it to scholars to debate "whether the Bush doctrine is the most muscular expression of national interest in a half-century."

Buxton, one of those who graced the magazine's cover, called his stepmother Sunday afternoon to discuss the big news. Though the connection was bad, it was clear the soldier was proud, Dana Buxton said.

"He felt it was an honor for the troops," she said, "and he was very pleased the troops were being honored on the cover."

The selection echoes 1950, the year the Korean War began, when the magazine's editors picked the American GI for the cover, writing that "it was not a role the American had sought, either as an individual or as a nation. The U.S. fighting-man was not civilization's crusader, but destiny's draftee."

Time magazine knows the risks that the soldiers face first hand. On the evening of Dec. 10, Time

writer Michael Weisskopf's right hand was blown off and photographer James Nachtwey was hit with shrapnel when a grenade landed on their humvee as the same soldiers honored by Time were stuck in Baghdad traffic.

Grimes, the platoon's medic, treated the two journalists along with injured members of her unit. Weisskopf is recovering at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington, D.C., and Nachtwey is back in New York.

Kelly said Saddam Hussein was not considered for Person of the Year in 2003 because "he was on the losing side of this conflict," and it was unclear how much he was leading the insurgency. In 2001, then-New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani was picked as Time's Person of the Year for leading the city's response to the Sept. 11 terror attacks.

Last year, Time editors selected Coleen Rowley, the FBI agent who wrote a scathing memo on FBI intelligence failures, and Cynthia Cooper and Sherron Watkins, who blew the whistle on corruption at corporate giants Enron and WorldCom



**MAIL** from pg. 1

uted thousands of pounds of mail to American troops on Kandahar Air Field (KAF) and 11 outlying firebases in the southern region of Afghanistan.

1<sup>st</sup> Lt Andrea Davis from Springfield, MA, is the Officer In Charge of the unit. She says that her job is a labor of love and a positive impact on the troops moral, especially during the holiday season.

"My job is to keep the mail moving and into the hands of the hard working soldiers here," she said. Davis and her 14-soldier team have been working over time to keep up with the additional amounts of mail outgoing and coming into the facility in recent weeks. Sgt 1<sup>st</sup> Class Brian Cannon from Medford, MA, says that they are sending out and receiving over twice the amount of mail normally processed in a single month. He is the Platoon Sergeant for the unit and an 18-year Army veteran. He spent some 15 years in the infantry and runs the post office with the efficiency of a well-oiled machine.

"I have a fantastic group of NCOs and crew that make my job easy," he complimented. "Our goal when we arrived here was to improve the level of customer service, and I know we've accomplished that."

Staff Sgt. Court Marshall is the Custodian of Postal Effects and handles all the financial aspects of the post office. An articulate man with a keen eye for detail, he rattled off a list of improvements he says serves to make the post office operate much like ones back home. "We have instituted special services such as Registered Mail and Integrated Retail Terminal for rapid calculations of postage routes," he said. "We've also improved the facility by installing a larger customer service window and additional bin storage areas for holding the mail." The Agawam, MA native says that they continue to seek ways to improve the post office.

As the pallets of mail are forked lifted off the truck and placed on the entrance to the receiving dock, four postal clerks converge on the massive load and within minutes, a seemingly chaotic amalgam of activity begins. The soldiers each grab a bag and hand carry the items

into the sorting area while simultaneously barking out a series of arcane phrases and numbers to another team member who hastily records the information on a clipboard. Other members of the team receive the packages and somehow manage to decipher the myriad of scrawling symbols and writing on them, then transports the package to its designated bin.

This chorus of boxes and people going in every direction may seem like complete disorder to most, but to the trained professionals of the 303<sup>rd</sup>, it is a symphony of well-rehearsed efficiency. They take great pride in ensuring that each package gets to the soldier it is intended for, and are rewarded in the joy the mail brings to troops fighting the war on terrorism so far from home.

"The smiles we receive when people get their mail is indescribable," says Staff Sgt. Robert Moore from Lowell, MA. "To receive a little piece of home is what we all hope for, and we are proud to be the ones to deliver it to the people here." Moore is the Postal Operations Supervisor who ensures mail is properly distributed throughout the area. A tall muscular man with the quick wittedness of a stand up comedian, he is well known and beloved on KAF for his unique ability to make anyone smile. He can often be seen surrounded by groups of people regaling stories of barroom brawls in his

trademark Bostonian accent.

"Ours is a business of customer service," says Moore. "To give folks the reassurance that family and friends do care is what we are all about."

Many of the packages are wrapped in colorful Christmas paper and the post office is decked out with all the trimmings of the season. As she picks up a package from the unsorted pile and glances at the address label, Sgt. Kristina Martinelli, sporting a Christmas stocking cap, screams with jubilation as she discovers the package is for her. She quickly unwraps it and passes around a tin of chocolate covered peanuts to her teammates, all the while smiling from ear to ear.

As mail clerks from the various units on KAF file in to pick up their mail, a sense of pride washes over Staff Sgt. Moore's face as he observes the scene before him. His message to the troops he serves is simple and sincere: "Any concerns, good or bad, feel free to swing by and let us know about it. Share a word, share a laugh, hopefully we can put your mind at ease and rectify the situation. Maybe someday when we're all back home I'll run into some of you and share a beer and a Redsox ballgame. Until then, we'll continue delivering your packages and I wish you all a merry Christmas."



*SFC Brian Cannon and Sgt. Christina Martinelli prepare mail for pick-up*



*Col. Garrett and Robin Williams take a moment for a snapshot during the show*



*Darryl Worley sings his hit "Have you Forgotten"*



*Sgt. Maj. Tilley's niece sings her heart out for KAF*

accompanied him.

Robin Williams stole the show with his irreverent style of comedy and was well received by the gathering of some two thousand troops. Gen Myers and the celebrities took photographs and signed autographs with soldiers after the show, and then the party departed KAF for Bahrain.

Three days later, Sgt. Maj. Of the Army Jack Tilly arrived and hosted a USO concert for residents of the base. The Armies top enlisted man spent a cold Afghan evening hamming it up with the troops as the Army Band and various celebrities entertained with music and comedy. The troops reaction to the Washington Redskins cheerleaders was understandably robust.

Base Commander Col. William Garrett and Base Command Sgt. Maj. Frank Grippe, braved the frigid temperatures late into the night celebrating with the troops.

The Chairman and Sgt. Maj. are completing a Southwest Asia tour that also includes visits to troops in Iraq, Kuwait and Bahrain.



*Redskin Cheerleaders get the crowd at attention*



*Wrestler Kurt Angle shares "The Truth" with the soldiers of KAF*



*Gen. Meyers and his wife share a few laughs with the soldiers of KAF*



*No Illusion swoons the crowd with sultry song and dance*

## ***“Holiday Inspiration from Home”***

### **“Twas two weeks before Christmas”**

**By Deborah Sandberg “Proud Army Mom”**

T’was two weeks before Christmas, And all through Iraq,  
The people still worried that Saddam would be back.  
The soldiers went out on their nightly patrol,  
Capturing the bad guys was always their goal!

With raids seeming endless in the triangle Sunni,  
We hoped that not all of Iraq was so looney!  
We gathered the tribe of Saddam, in Tikrit,  
And suddenly now they all started to snit!

They told of a farm where Hussein just might be  
Odierno then called on our boys- from the great 4th ID!  
More rapid than Baathists our soldiers they came,  
And he whistled and shouted and called them by name

Now Delta, Now Rangers, Now Cavalry too!  
On Green Hats, on Pilots, I need all of you!  
Go to that farm and secure it right now!  
Capture his ass- you guys know how!

Off went our soldiers under cover of night,  
So stealthy, so quiet with no trace of light  
While we back at home were eating our lunches,  
Our boys on the ground were following hunches!

And then it was time for the raid to begin.  
The first target came up -empty within!  
Could it be our Intel was wrong once again?  
No! Somewhere nearby is the wolf in his den!

And then, in a twinkling, camouflage torn away  
In a hole in the ground did their quarry lay  
Dazed and confused, right at them he looked,  
Did the stupid old fool know his goose was now cooked?

He was dressed all in rags from his toes to his head,  
And his beard was as matted as 12 day-old bread!  
How the mighty had fallen, could this be Hussein?  
One look in his eyes was to know he’s insane!

Our boys got their man - how proud we all are  
The relief in our country is felt near and far  
A bath he has had now -yet he’ll never be clean  
Forever tainted with mass torture and his Fedaheen

To our soldiers we give our undying respect  
You always give more than we ever expect  
We hope you can have now a night with some fun  
Your loved ones back home say- JOB DAMN WELL DONE!

### **A Special poem for all of the soldiers and their families**

Written by Jen Zuniga

**We are the children...  
Our innocent eyes filled with tears  
Our little hands reaching out for love  
We’ve fallen off the edge of freedom  
Rescue us, we cannot save ourselves.**

**Your view is from up above  
The sky so blue and friendly  
The rock your steady ground  
Do you notice us? We are individuals.**

**We are the future but we can barely breathe  
You tell us to dream, but how?  
We do not know what a star is  
All we know is what we feel, hurt and pain so near**

**Two worlds must come together  
One spared life requires one to sacrifice  
Unselfish hearts complete the mission  
Rewards go to the stranger**

**To all the 10<sup>th</sup> MTN heroes  
You are the shadows unforgotten  
You brought us life and hope  
When we thought we were forgotten**

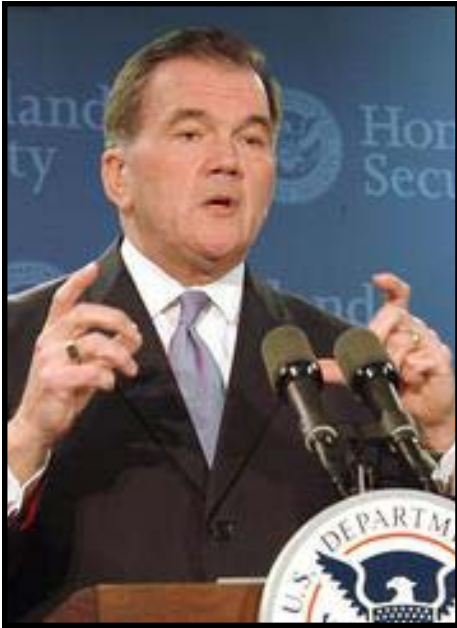
**We are the children all grown up now  
You protected our schools so we could learn  
Now we want to say “THANK-YOU”  
We’re experiencing freedom for the first time  
BECAUSE OF YOU, our lives are changed forever!**

**MERRY CHRISTMAS & A HAPPY NEW YEAR! ;)**





# WORLD NEWS



## Nation's Threat Level Raised to Orange

By JENNIFER C. KERR  
Associated Press Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Security is being increased at airports, borders and ports as the nation stands at "Code Orange," the second-highest alert level for terrorist threats.

The upgrade Sunday from "Code Yellow," or "elevated" status, followed warnings from the government that al-Qaida militants may be plotting attacks on America during the holidays. The new designation indicates a high risk.

"The information we have indicates that extremists abroad are anticipating near-term attacks that they believe will either rival or exceed" the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks, Homeland Security Secretary Tom Ridge said in announcing the change.

Some of the intelligence information gathered, Ridge said, indicates that Osama bin Laden's terrorist network is seeking again to use planes as weapons. They are "constantly evaluating procedures ... to find gaps in our security posture that could be exploited," he said.

The threat information comes from multiple, credible sources, but officials are unaware of a specific target or means of attack, said a senior law enforcement official who spoke on condition of anonymity.

Some of the intercepted communications and other intelligence mentions New York, Washington and unspecified cities on the West Coast, this official said. Authorities also are concerned about dams, bridges, nuclear plants, chemical facilities and other public works.

Thousands of state and local law enforcement agencies have received an FBI advisory urging special notice of sites that could be a conceivable target and potential security upgrades, the official said.

In addition, Ridge has contacted his counterparts in Canada and Mexico about increasing border security.

At a hastily arranged news conference Sunday, Ridge said credible intelligence sources "suggest the possibility of attacks against the homeland around the holiday season and beyond."

He said the government decided to raise the alert level after U.S. intelligence agencies "received a substantial increase in the volume of threat-related intelligence reports."

Hours after Ridge's announcement, the State Department issued a worldwide caution warning U.S. citizens overseas that they may be terrorist targets. Echoing Ridge, the caution said officials "expect al-Qaida will strive for new attacks designed to be more devastating" than the Sept. 11 attacks.

Ridge said officials did not see a connection between the recent capture of ousted Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein and the heightened security alert.

He also tried to reassure Americans traveling by plane for the holidays. "Make no mistake about it, aviation is far more secure than it's ever been in the history of the country," Ridge said. At the same time, he said security at airports can be

ramped up a bit more.

As a result of the change in threat level, all federal departments and agencies were putting action plans in place and stepping up security at airports, border crossings and ports, Ridge said.

"Extensive and considerable protections have been or soon will be in place all across the country," Ridge said. "Your government will stand at the ready 24 hours a day, seven days a week, to stop terrorism during the holiday season and beyond."

And he urged Americans not to disrupt holiday plans. "If you've got travel plans, travel," he said.

In recent days, U.S. officials told travelers to be vigilant about the threat of attacks. The warning was prompted in part by a raised level of ominous intercepted communications that has not quieted for months.

On Friday, the Arabic television network Al-Jazeera aired a new threatening statement from Ayman al-Zawahri, bin Laden's chief deputy. The CIA said Saturday it believes the tape is authentic.

Gen. Richard Myers, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, said Sunday that officials were trying to determine whether the increased material detected was an aberration or something more serious.

The alert level has previously been raised from yellow to orange four times - setting off a flurry of increased security measures by cities, states and businesses.

The lowest two levels, green and blue, and the highest - red, indicating an imminent threat - have not been used since the system was put in place in March 2002.



# WORLD NEWS



## Malvo Guilty of Murder in Sniper Spree

By MATTHEW BARAKAT  
Associated Press Writer

**CHESAPEAKE, Va. (AP)** — A jury convicted Lee Boyd Malvo of capital murder in the Washington-area sniper case Thursday, rejecting claims that the teenager was brainwashed by John Allen Muhammad into taking part in the three-week reign of terror that left 10 people dead.

The jury now will decide whether Malvo should be sentenced to death or life in prison without parole. A jury in nearby Virginia Beach convicted Muhammad last month and recommended he be executed for his role as the mastermind of the killings.

Malvo, who often had an animated expression during the trial, leaned on his elbows at the table with a blank look on his face as the verdict was read. The jury deliberated for 13 hours over two days before rejecting Malvo's insanity defense.

Malvo, 18, was convicted of two counts of capital murder in the Oct. 14, 2002, killing of FBI analyst Linda Franklin, who was cut down by a single bullet to the head outside a Home Depot in Falls Church, Va. The sentencing phase will begin Friday.

Franklin's daughter, Katrina Hannum, cried after the verdict as other people in the courtroom patted each other on the shoulders.

"I'm happy," said June Boyle, the detective who heard Malvo's confession. "Not all the way happy yet, though. We still have sentencing to do."

A man wounded in a shooting Malvo and Muhammad are accused of committing before the sniper spree said he was grateful jurors rejected the defense argument that Muhammad's influence had made Malvo insane. That emotion was echoed by other victims' relatives.

"He was just as responsible," said Muhammad Rashid, who said he saw Malvo moments before he was shot Sept. 15 outside a Brandywine, Md., liquor store. "There is no chance I have any forgiveness for him."

In Malvo's native Jamaica, his estranged father expressed sorrow over the verdict and pleaded for jurors not to impose the death penalty.

"I'm very sad," said Leslie Malvo, who testified for the defense. "I would like them to spare my son's life. He wouldn't do such a thing on his own."

One of the counts against Malvo alleged the killing was part of a series of murders over a three-year period; the other alleged that Franklin's killing was intended to terrorize the public. Malvo and Muhammad, 42, are the first people tried under the post-Sept. 11 terrorism law.

Attorney General John Ashcroft had cited Virginia's ability to impose "the ultimate sanction" in sending Malvo and Muhammad to Virginia for prosecution. Virginia is one of only 21 states that allow the execution of those who were 16 or 17 when they killed. Malvo was 17 at the time of the sniper rampage.

Prosecutors portrayed Malvo as a gleeful and eager triggerman in the October 2002 killing spree, saying he fired shots from the trunk of a beat-up Chevy while Muhammad plotted the attacks.

Ten people were killed and three wounded during the spree - most them as they went about their daily routines. A 13-year-old boy was wounded after being dropped off

at school. A mother was gunned down as she vacuumed her minivan at gas station. One victim was mowing grass when he was killed. Another was buying groceries.

Authorities said the killings were part of an attempt to extort \$10 million from the government.

During his closing argument, prosecutor Robert F. Horan Jr. called Malvo and Muhammad "peas in a pod," motivated by greed and wickedness.

"Their belief, as wild and vicious as it was, was that if they killed enough people, the government would come around" and meet their demand for money, Horan said.

During the six-week trial, jurors saw several grisly crime scene photos and heard two police confessions in which a cocky Malvo gloated about the killings.

Malvo chuckled as he recalled how one victim fell after being struck, while the lawnmower he had been pushing rumbled along. And he bragged that he and Muhammad could pull off a shooting regardless of police presence. "You don't mean nothing," he told a detective. "We will shoot with you there. We shoot with you not there. We will shoot with soldiers there."

Under interrogation, Malvo claimed initially to be the triggerman in all the Washington-area sniper shootings, but later recanted and said Muhammad was the gunman in all but the final shooting.

The defense argued that Malvo initially took the blame to protect Muhammad, the man he had come to view as a father. The defense said Muhammad had "indoctrinated" Malvo with his beliefs about black nationalism, racism, white oppression and revolutionary violence, leaving the young man unable to tell right from wrong. Malvo and Muhammad are black.

According to the defense, Muhammad convinced Malvo that the killings were "designed to achieve a greater good of a fairer and righteous society."

**Cont. on next pg.**



# NEWS cont.

Malvo's lawyers called several experts - including an authority on cults and an expert on child soldiers - to argue that Malvo was vulnerable to brainwashing by the older Muhammad because of an unstable childhood in which his mother often dropped out of his life.

"Lee could no more separate himself from John Muhammad than you could separate from your shadow on a sunny day," defense attorney Michael Arif said in closing arguments. "He was not the idea man. He was a puppet, molded like a piece of clay by John Muhammad."

The decision to convict on capital murder means that the jury believes Malvo was the triggerman in Franklin's death.

The jury could have convicted Malvo of first-degree murder, which would have taken the death penalty off the table. In addition to the murder charges, Malvo was found guilty of using a firearm in a murder.

Malvo and Muhammad could stand trial again. Prosecutors in Maryland and Louisiana have said they want a crack at Muhammad, and Malvo could face a similar fate.

Virginia is one of only six states that have actually executed a juvenile since the death penalty was reinstated in 1976, according to the Death Penalty Information Center.

Muhammad was convicted of identical charges for the killing of Dean Harold Meyers at a gas station. The judge could reduce his punishment to life in prison when he sentences Muhammad in February, although Virginia judges rarely overrule a jury's recommendation of death.



## WTC Freedom Tower Design Released

NEW YORK — A new design for the Freedom Tower at the World Trade Center site slopes gracefully into a spire rising 1,776 feet, echoing the Statue of Liberty, images released Friday show.

The new plan — which comes after months of contentious negotiations between designers Daniel Libeskind and David Childs — retains many elements of Libeskind's original plan but appears to smooth out its most angular elements.

At a news conference to unveil the design, Childs said the tower must be "simple and pure in its form, a memorable form that will reclaim the resilience and the spirit of our democracy."

Mayor Michael Bloomberg said the tower — which planners said would be the world's tallest — would "dramatically reclaim a part of the New York City skyline that was lost on 9/11."

"This is a wonderful day, not just for New York, but for America," said Bloomberg, who appeared with the architects and Gov. George Pataki to unveil the new design.

The cost is estimated at \$1.5 billion, said

Charles Gargano, vice chairman of the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey, the public agency that owns the site.

Gargano said the Port Authority, which had headquarters in the World Trade Center, plans to occupy one-third of the building's office space. The governor's Manhattan offices will also be located in the tower.

The plan follows the original, asymmetrical structure proposed by Libeskind, who was originally tapped as the architect to remake ground zero by the Lower Manhattan Development Corp., the agency charged with redevelopment.

But Childs, who was appointed by leaseholder Larry Silverstein, succeeded in including a lattice structure filled with energy-generating windmills at the top of the building. Childs likened the suspension elements of the new design to the Brooklyn Bridge, with the bottom of the building "torqued or twisted."

The building is to be put up on the northwest part off the World Trade Center site, not on the footprint of the vanished towers.

The plan calls for a cable suspension structure that creates an open area above the building's 70 floors of office space, and houses windmills to generate energy. The windmills could provide 20 percent of the building's energy.

Silverstein, often a silent presence at redevelopment announcements, said he was emotionally moved by both the design and the process of creating it.

"What we see today is, in my judgment, beautiful. It's spectacular; it is also very practical," Silverstein said.

He has promised to build one new skyscraper at the site each year after the expected completion of the Freedom Tower in 2009, finishing the five-building complex in 2013.

Taiwan's Taipei 101 tower, 1,676 feet tall,

**Cont. on next pg.**

# SPORTS

## WTC cont.

recently supplanted Malaysia's 1,483-foot Petronas Twin Towers as the tallest building in the world when crews completed installing the pinnacle. The 110-story World Trade Center towers were 1,350 feet tall.

Despite persistent reports of conflict between the two designers, Childs told NBC's "Today" show they had "a spectacular time working together. ... Creative minds have different thoughts about how you do things. I wouldn't want to work with somebody who would just say yes."

Added Pataki: "This represents a melding of two very, very talented, creative geniuses."

Negotiations had been contentious between the two architects. Libeskind, who created the Jewish Museum in Berlin but has little experience with major commercial projects, once compared the relationship with Childs, who designed the new Time Warner building in Manhattan, to a "forced marriage."

Several safety features were included in the design, such as separate staircases for firefighters and "blast-resistant glaze" on the lobby glass.

Richard Meier, an architect who was a finalist for the trade center design competition won by Libeskind, questioned the timetable set by the governor, who wants construction on the tower to begin next summer before the national Republican convention begins.

"We're not just talking about a building here; we're talking about a large area of the city that's being developed and there's a relationship between this new building and everything else that's going on," Meier said. "If the rest of this site is developed this way, it's going to be chaotic."



## Four soldiers qualify for Olympic Boxing Trials

By Tim Hippi

CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C. (Army News Service, Dec. 16, 2003) – Four more Soldiers qualified for the U.S. Olympic Boxing Team Trials by winning their weight divisions in the 2004 Armed Forces Boxing Championships Dec. 11 at French Creek Recreation Center here.

Staff Sgt. Torrence Daniels (119 pounds), Pfc. Keith Mason (141), 2nd Lt. Boyd Melson (152) and Staff Sgt. Charles Leverette (201) will be boxing at the Olympic Trials, which are scheduled for Feb. 17-21 at Tunica, Miss.

Staff Sgt. DeAndrey Abron, who qualified for the trials in the Golden Gloves of America National Tournament of Champions in May, won the 178-pound Armed Forces title after boxing to a 14-14 tie against Marine Lance Cpl. Jacob Garretson. The winner of their rugged, four-round bout was determined by Abron's 67-50 advantage on raw punches.

Brothers Spc. Clarence Joseph (165) and Spc. Edward Joseph (152) qualified for the trials earlier in the year at the Golden Gloves and Police Athletic League National Championships.

The boxers in the U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program are coached by Staff Sgt. Basheer Abdullah, who will lead Team USA's

boxing team into the 2004 Olympic Games at Athens, Greece.

The Army's good news doesn't stop there. Although women's boxing is not an Olympic sport, two female Soldiers won Armed Forces crowns.

Spc. Christine Boilard of Fort Huachuca, Ariz., posted a 35-8 decision over Lance Cpl. Laura Barrow of Twentynine Palms, Calif., in the 119-pound division. Last year, Boilard won the 114-pound division.

Sgt. Jennifer Greb, a native of Baltimore stationed at Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, won a 47-12 decision over Marine Lance Cpl. Amanda Myers of Iwakuni, Japan.

"I thought the women did an excellent job," said Staff Sgt. Fareed Samad, who coaches the Army's female boxers. "They looked better in the fights than they do in practice. Greb was just outstanding. She has a right hand and a left hook that are so strong. Once we got her believing that she can go forward with those punches – 47 is a lot of points."

Two others settled for silver medals: Sgt. Cherie Retamozzo (125) of Fort Bragg, N.C., and Spc. Danielle Miner (165) of Camp Carroll, Korea.

Melson, who graduated in May from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., won over a standing-room-only crowd of about 1,500 that chanted "L-T! L-T! L-T!" during his victory over Sr. Airman John Askew. Military police estimated they turned away another 500 folks at the door.

Melson forced Askew to take a standing eight-count in the second round and opened a cut below his left eye in the third. He was leading 16-2 after two rounds and 22-4 after three, during which he twice floored Askew. The referee stopped the contest at 1:36 of the fourth and final round after Askew endured another standing-eight.

"He would've fell three more times if he wouldn't have held onto me with a bear hug," said Melson, 22, of White Plains, N.Y., who dedicated his victory to twin brothers Maj. Christopher Hart and Capt. Gerald Hart the night

**Cont. on next pg.**

# SPORTS Continued

after their birthday. Christopher, who is deployed in Iraq, coached Melson at West Point. Gerald now coaches the boxing club there.

Melson said he wrote "Athens 04" on a board during his sophomore year at West Point, his first year in the ring. Now he "can't believe" he's headed to the Olympic Trials. Abdullah, meanwhile, is working to get Melson into WCAP.

Daniels, a WCAP boxer at Fort Carson, Colo., got the Army team rolling with a 38-10 victory over Airman 1st Class Carlos Casasola, who opened like gangbusters in the first fight of the night. Daniels backed Casasola into the ropes in the second round and forced a standing eight-count before the airman was saved by the bell.

"I was able to execute my game plan and show my level of skill," said Daniels, 29, of Muskegon, Mich., who won his second consecutive Armed Forces title. "I've been striving for this for a very long time. I've been training in the Army to pursue my Olympic dream. This is just one chapter of the dream."

Abdullah was relieved to get Daniels qualified for the trials.

"When he's on, he's on," Abdullah said. "He's one of the best 119-pounders in the nation. I feel very good about getting him on the [Olympic] team."

Fort Carson's Mason was pumped up and razor sharp during his 25-4 demolition of Air Force Airman 1st Class Robert Luna Jr. for the 141-pound crown. He knocked Luna down in the second round with an overhand right and landed several crisp combinations to the airman's head, forcing a standing eight-count in the fourth round. Mason also landed several solid right hooks in one of his finest bouts of the year.

"To be qualified for the Olympic Trials is a blessing," said Mason, 21, of Colum-

bus, Ohio. "I've been thinking about this forever, and I was prepared. I'd already made all my plans for going to the trials. I put the pressure on myself, and I came out and delivered."

Fort Carson's Leverette, 30, of Brent, Ala., won the heavyweight crown with a 13-5 decision over Marine Cpl. Roderick Prevost of Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Two more Soldiers reached the finals but settled for silver medals.

Spc. Mahlon Kerwick of Fort Carson dropped an 18-13 decision to Airman 1st Class Hector Ramos. They were tied 12-12 entering the final round before Ramos' stick-and-move tactics prevailed in the 132-pound finale.

In the final bout of the evening, super heavyweight Sgt. Deutsch Puu of Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, lost a 31-13 decision to Navy Master at Arms 2nd Class Israel Spencer of Seal Beach, Calif.

## Clemens May Be Ready for a Come-back

By JIMMY GOLEN  
AP Sports Writer

**NEW ORLEANS (AP)** — Roger Clemens might be ready for a comeback. Only seven weeks after retiring, Clemens acknowledged on Saturday that he would consider pitching for his hometown Astros next season now that Houston has signed his good friend and former New York Yankees teammate Andy Pettitte.

In town for an awards banquet down the street from baseball's winter meetings, Clemens was asked to quantify the possibility he'd play in 2004. "There's a percent," he said. Clemens also said he was flattered by the interest by the Astros and in Houston, and said Pettitte was also lobbying him to join the team.

Clemens is expected to decide sometime in January. The Astros agreed with Pettitte on a \$31.5 million, three-year

contract on Thursday, and almost immediately there were questions about whether Clemens would join him.

"It's my understanding that he's retired. Do you un-retire?" Astros manager Jimmy Williams said in his scheduled session with reporters on Saturday. "I guess he can, as others have. But we take one thing at a time."

"To a certain degree, it's a surprise to get him, given where he came from," Williams said. "I think it means an awful lot to the people of that area that he would want to come here and pitch for the major league team where he grew up. He chose not to think about a record as much as coming home."

Clemens also lives in Houston. He talked about pitching closer to home in 1996 when he left his first team, the Boston Red Sox, but signed with the Toronto Blue Jays. He was traded to the Yankees before the '99 season and retired this year with six Cy Young Awards and two World Series championships.

For now, though, Williams said he preferred to focus on the pitcher he does have. Pettitte, 31, went 21-8 with a 4.02 ERA last season. He was 149-78 in his career with the Yankees, giving him a chance to surpass Whitey Ford's 236 career Yankees victories if he had stayed with the team.

"He's a welcome addition to our club, our staff, our starting rotation. He's pitched big games and been successful in big games," Williams said. "Not only do you uplift our whole pitching staff, you uplift our whole club."

With Pettitte in the rotation, the Astros still face questions about their bullpen. Having traded closer Billy Wagner to Philadelphia to save money, Houston hopes Octavio Dotel can be the closer.

"If you look at pure stuff, he definitely has it," Williams said. "If you're looking at the way he took the ball ... yes, he can do it. Now is his opportunity. I know he's looking forward to it."



# HEADLINERS

---

## **275-Pound Prostitute Strips Attacker**

**BAKERSFIELD, Calif. (AP)** — A 140-pound rapist met his match in an angry, 275-pound prostitute, police said.

Adrian Castillo Ramirez allegedly tried to sexually assault a 24-year-old Bakersfield prostitute who was nearly twice his weight.

But she took his knife, stripped him naked and paraded him in front of other prostitutes, after asking how many of them had ever been forced into sex at knifepoint. Then she tried to take him - still naked - to the police station, reports said.

Castillo was charged with failing to register as a sex offender, and with committing forcible sex acts on the 24-year-old and on a 37-year-old woman in a previous incident. He was convicted of four counts of rape in 1988.

Castillo pleaded innocent Wednesday, and is being held on \$250,000 bail, police said.

## **Infamous Atlanta Strip Club Now a Church**

**ATLANTA (AP)** — What was once a house of sin will soon become a house of worship.

A nondenominational church will lease the Gold Club building and hold its first services there early next year. The infamous Atlanta strip club was shut down by the federal government after a sensational racketeering trial in 2001.

Church members will start cleaning out the building this weekend.

"We're going to take something that was a mess and turn it into something good and usable," said the Rev. Dan Garrett of the Christian Church of Buckhead.

The club was closed after owner Steve Kaplan pleaded guilty in 2001 to racketeering charges in a case that featured strippers, mobsters and pro athletes.

The trial became a celebrity spectacle, with athletes such as basketball star Patrick Ewing and Atlanta Braves outfielder Andruw Jones testifying about their escapades.

A group of developers paid \$5.25 million for the property this week. The church will lease the building until it is torn down to make way for a condominium tower in the spring.

## **Mayor Tells Deputy: 'Don't Call Me Dude'**

**BAKERSFIELD, Calif. (AP)** — Arvin Mayor Juan Olivares had just one request of a Kern County sheriff's deputy during a traffic stop - "Don't call me dude."

Olivares planned to file an official complaint with the sheriff's department, seeking to have the deputy fired for what he called disrespectful behavior.

"I asked him five times, 'Please, officer, don't call me dude.' I'm not a dude. I'm 41 years old, I'm a businessman, I'm a Christian and I consider myself a gentleman," Olivares said Monday.

Olivares is mayor of Arvin, a city of 20,000 in Kern County, about 20 miles south of Bakersfield.

The deputy stopped Olivares and Arvin City Councilwoman Carmen Acevedo in Bakersfield on Nov. 23. Olivares, who was driving, said he was ticketed for having illegally tinted windows on his vehicle, and Acevedo received a citation for having an open container of beer.

Olivares didn't dispute the charges. He just took issue with being called dude.

"He was calling me dude and laughing about it," Olivares said. "I don't think Kern County needs that kind of leadership."

Officials with the Kern County Sheriff's Department did not immediately return a call seeking comment.

Final	1	2	3	4	T
Baltimore (9-6-0) «	0	7	7	21	35
Cleveland (4-11-0)	0	0	0	0	0

Final	1	2	3	4	T
Detroit (4-11-0)	0	0	0	14	14
Carolina (10-5-0) «	7	10	3	0	20

Final	1	2	3	4	T
Cincinnati (8-7-0)	0	10	0	0	10
St. Louis (12-3-0) «	7	10	3	7	27

Final	1	2	3	4	T
Tennessee (11-4-0) «	0	10	7	10	27
Houston (5-10-0)	0	3	14	7	24

Final	1	2	3	4	T
San Diego (3-12-0)	0	10	7	7	24
Pittsburgh (6-9-0) «	14	7	7	12	40

Final OT	1	2	3	4	OT	T
San Francisco (7-8-0)	7	7	3	11	3	31
Philadelphia (11-4-0)	0	14	7	7	0	28

Final	1	2	3	4	T
Atlanta (4-11-0) «	10	17	3	0	30
Tampa Bay (7-8-0)	0	7	0	21	28

Final	1	2	3	4	T
New England (13-2-0)	7	7	7	0	21
NY Jets (6-9-0)	7	3	0	6	16

Final	1	2	3	4	T
Washington (5-10-0)	10	7	0	7	24
Chicago (7-8-0) «	10	0	14	3	27

Final	1	2	3	4	T
Miami (9-6-0) «	10	3	7	0	20
Buffalo (6-9-0)	0	0	3	0	3

Final	1	2	3	4	T
New Orleans (7-8-0)	3	7	3	6	19
Jacksonville (5-10-0)	0	17	3	0	20

Final	1	2	3	4	T
NY Giants (4-11-0)	3	0	0	0	3
Dallas (10-5-0) «	10	3	3	3	19

Final	1	2	3	4	T
Arizona (3-12-0)	0	3	0	7	10
Seattle (9-6-0) «	14	7	0	7	28








Final	1	2	3	4	T
Denver (10-5-0) «	14	14	0	3	31
Indianapolis (11-4-0)	7	10	0	0	17

Final	1	2	3	4	T
Kansas City (12-3-0)	0	0	7	13	20
Minnesota (9-6-0) «	7	17	7	14	45

## NFL WEEK 16 SCORES

Courtesy of NFL.com

## KANDAHAR WEEKLY FORECAST

	Mon Dec 22	Tue Dec 23	Wed Dec 24	Thur Dec 25	Fri Dec 26	Sat Dec 27	Sun Dec 28
	 DUST Dusty Skies	 DUST Dusty Skies And Colder	 DUST Less Dust And Cold	 Partly cloudy	 Mostly Sunny	 Mostly Sunny With AM Dust	 Mostly Sunny With AM Dust
HIGH	61	52	45	50	54	60	64
LOW	33	32	32	32	34	37	40
SUNRISE	0232	0233	0233	0234	0234	0235	0235
SUNSET	1237	1238	1239	1239	1239	1237	1241

KANDAHAR COMBAT WEATHER TEAM

*Mountain Warrior Weekly* is always accepting comments and suggestions as to how we can improve your newspaper. If you have comments or suggestions, or simply just want to be added to our emailing list, email the staff at

*Kandaharpresscenter@yahoo.com*